IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for generating a multi-version document using an original version and a revised version of a structured document, said structured document including one or more tree structures, each said tree structure including one or more hierarchically arranged nodes, each said node having a start tag and an end tag, said method comprising the steps of:

extracting common portions included commonly in both the original version and the revised version of the structured document, and difference portions specific to either the original version or the revised version, by recognizing each node element between its start tag and its end tag, each of said common portions and said difference portions ~~each composed of a structure~~ having a node identifier attached thereto identifying the node or a part of the node and text character strings included in the document; and

creating said multi-version document based on ~~said~~ the extraction result, wherein said multi-version document includes:

said extracted common portions each having a version description tag attached thereto, said version description tag including version identifiers of the original version and the revised version and the node identifier ~~identifiers~~ of the common portion ~~in both the original version and the revised version~~; and

said extracted difference portions each having a version description tag attached thereto, said version description tag including a version identifier of a version which includes the difference portion, ~~a~~ the node identifier of the difference portion ~~in the version which includes the difference portion~~, and information specifying whether the difference portion was generated as a result of insertion or modification.

2. (Original) The method for generating a multi-version document as claimed in claim 1, said method further comprising a step of: when a further-revised version is created, performing said extraction and said creation using a latest version included in said multi-version document and said further-revised version to create a new multi-version document.

3. (Original) The method for generating a multi-version document as claimed in claim 2, wherein said new multi-version document is written in an XML format.

4. (Original) The method for generating a multi-version document as claimed in claim 2, said method further comprising a step of: displaying any arbitrary version based on said new multi-version document.

5. (Currently Amended) The method for generating a multi-version document as claimed in claim 2, said method further comprising a step of:

displaying difference between a specified version and another version based on said multi-version document, said difference including the version identifier and its corresponding text character string for each displayed version.

6. (Original) The method for generating a multi-version document as claimed in claim 2, wherein an XML namespace is applied to said version description tag.

7. (Currently Amended) A system for generating a multi-version document using an original version and a revised version of a structured document, said structured document including one or more tree structures, each tree structure including one or more hierarchically arranged nodes, each node having a start tag and an end tag, said system comprising:

means for extracting common portions included commonly in both the original version and the revised version of the structured document, and difference portions specific to either the original version or the revised version, by recognizing each node element between its start tag and its end tag, each of said common portions and said difference portions ~~each composed of a structure~~ having a node identifier attached thereto identifying the node or a part of the node and text character strings included in the document; and

means for creating said multi-version document based on ~~said~~ the extraction result, wherein said multi-version document includes:

said extracted common portions each having a version description tag attached thereto, said version description tag including version identifiers of the original version and the revised version and the node ~~identifiers~~ identifier of the common portion ~~in both the original version and the revised version~~; and

said extracted difference portions each having a version description tag attached thereto, said version description tag including a version identifier of a version which includes the difference portion, ~~a~~ the node identifier of the difference portion ~~in the version which includes the difference portion~~, and information specifying whether the difference portion was generated as a result of insertion or modification.

8. (Original) The system for generating a multi-version document as claimed in claim 7, said system further comprising: means for, when a further-revised version is created, performing said extraction and said creation using a latest version included in said multi-version document and said further-revised version to create a new multi-version document.

9. (Original) The system for generating a multi-version document as claimed in claim 8, wherein said new multi-version document is written in an XML format.

10. (Original) The system for generating a multi-version document as claimed in claim 8, said system further comprising: means for displaying any arbitrary version based on said new multi-version document.

11. (Currently Amended) The system for generating a multi-version document as claimed in claim 8, said system further comprising: means for displaying difference between a specified version and another version based on said multi-version document, said difference including the version identifier and its corresponding text character string for each displayed version.

12. (Original) The system for generating a multi-version document as claimed in claim 8, wherein an XML namespace is applied to said version description tag.

13. (New) The method for generating a multi-version document as claimed in claim 1, said method further comprising a step of:

displaying a change history list of the text character strings for the same node with the corresponding version identifiers attached thereto.

14. (New) The system for generating a multi-version document as claimed in claim 7, said system further comprising:

means for displaying a change history list of the text character strings for the same node with the corresponding version identifiers attached thereto.